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COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS
Intergovernmental Working Group of
Experts on International Standards
of Accounting and Reporting
Ninth session
5-15 March 1991
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Programme of work of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting.

4. Provisional agenda for the tenth session of the Group.

5. Adoption of the report of the Group on its ninth session.

READEX FICHE

Annotations

1. Election of officers

The proceedings of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting are governed, mutatis mutandis, by the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council. Rule 18 thereof provides that the Bureau shall consist of five officers. The Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting may therefore wish to elect a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. Rule 19 prescribes that the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

The provisional agenda and documentation for the ninth session of the Group were approved by the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its sixteenth session in decision 1990/1.

The Group shall, in accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Council, adopt the agenda for the session on the basis of the provisional agenda. The Group will also decide on the organization of its work for the session.

3. Programme of work of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting

(a) Review of important current developments at the global and national levels in the field of accounting and reporting by transnational corporations, on the basis of documentation received by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations from:

(i) Individual member States;

(ii) Intergovernmental organizations;

(iii) Non-governmental organizations;

Documentation

Reports of the Secretary-General, including two separate reviews of important current developments in the field of accounting and reporting by transnational corporations - one at the global level and the other at the national level (E/C.10/AC.3/1991/2, E/C.10/AC.3/1991/3)

(b) Discussion of accounting and reporting issues identified during the eighth session - namely:

(i) Accounting for and by joint ventures;

(ii) Accounting for environmental protection measures;

(iii) Accounting and reporting during and after the transition from State to private enterprises;

(iv) Organization of the accounting profession and the role and qualification of auditors;

Documentation

Reports of the Secretary-General and relevant reports of international organizations (E/C.10/AC.3/1991/4, E/C.10/AC.3/1991/5, E/C.10/AC.3/1991/6, E/C.10/AC.3/1991/7)

(c) Identification of accounting and reporting issues for discussion on a priority basis during future sessions;

(d) Further steps to be taken in relation to the development of the comprehensive information system;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/C.10/AC.3/1991/8)

(e) Accounting and reporting issues arising out of the future code of conduct on transnational corporations;

(f) Appropriate measures to give effect to the work of the Group;

(g) Renewal of the mandate and review of the objectives;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/C.10/AC.3/1991/9)

(h) Ways and means of improving education, research and practical training in the field of accounting and reporting in member States.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General containing the results of follow-up actions after the survey relating to Africa (E/C.10/AC.3/1991/10)

4. Provisional agenda for the tenth session of the Group

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII), the Group will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its tenth session, with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Group to consider those documents from the point of view of their contribution to the work of the Group, their urgency and their relevance in the light of the current situation.

In resolution 1979/41, the Council decided that the provisional agenda for its subsidiary bodies, together with the list of requested documentation, should be submitted to the Council for its review, in order, inter alia, to establish greater consistency between the requests for documentation and the medium-term plan and the programme budget.

By resolution 1989/114 on further measures for the implementation of Council resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Economic and Social Council, the Council urged its subsidiary bodies to implement fully resolution 1979/41 in submitting to the Council for consideration their provisional agenda together with the list of requested documentation, with a view to ensuring greater consistency in requests for documentation and improving reporting procedures. In this connection, it will be recalled that the Council urged all its subsidiary bodies to exercise the utmost restraint in making requests of the Secretary-General for new reports and studies and to implement fully the decisions of the Council and of the General Assembly with respect to the control and limitation of documentation (Council resolutions 1981/83 and 1982/50).

By decision 1983/163, the Council decided to request the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions are adopted, any request for documentation that exceeds the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that deal with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

Documentation

Draft provisional agenda for the tenth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting: note by the Secretary-General

5. Adoption of the report of the Group on its ninth session

The Group will report to the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its seventeenth session.